

COLLECTING URINE

So you've been asked to collect a urine sample from your pet, no we are not joking, urine contains numerous substances that we can measure to help assess the health of your pet. Some urine contains crystals and there is no other way of knowing about and monitoring this condition without examining the urine.

Male dogs: are usually very easy to collect from as they want to urinate on anything and everything! Holding any clean container in the stream will allow collection.

Female dogs: can be a bit trickier. Again any clean dry container will work but I find a narrow open dish (like a chinese takeaway container or a coke bottle cut in half longways) is the best.

Once you have your sample simply pour the urine into a clean sealable container or urine specimen jar. Then follow from STEP 4 below.

CATS:

We have a number of options for cats obviously we need the cats to use a litter tray and not be allowed to go outside.

STEP 1: Remove all litter then wash and dry the tray.

STEP 2: Replace the litter with something similar but non-absorbant. As cats are very picky about litter trays, this can be a bit tricky and it will upset some cats unfortunately. Accidents may occur so its best to be prepared for this. Options for replacement litter include:

- needle caps (we supply these)
- finely sliced up plastic shopping bags
- specially designed collection sand (can be purchased from us)

STEP 3: Once your cat urinates in the litter, simply pour the urine into a clean sealable container or specimen jar (also can be purchased from the clinic). You do not have to collect the urine specifically into the little caps, nor does it matter if any go into the jar (same as the plastic bags)

STEP 4: Once you have your urine sample, bringing it to the vet clinic as soon as possible is best, especially if we are looking for crystals. If you are unable to come in for a few hours (or more) place the container in the fridge until you can bring it in.

STEP 5: Please inform reception if the sample has been refrigerated

STEP 6: There are charges for urine sample analysis which are usually paid for when you deliver the urine.